

# Tide-Over Funds Groups Backed by CIA

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All secret CIA support of private American voluntary organizations will end by Sunday but some of the groups got extra funds to tide them over, the State Department announced yesterday.

The announcement amounted to an official windup of the work of a special three-man committee named by President Johnson Feb. 15 amid the row over disclosures of Central Intelligence Agency aid to some student and other organizations engaged in overseas activities.

Press officer Robert J. McCloskey recalled that the committee, headed by Under Secretary of State Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, had recommended a windup of covert financial assistance to educational and voluntary organizations by the end of this year.

McCloskey said:

"Now, in fact, this target has been met. Covert financial support will in every instance be discontinued prior to Dec. 31, 1967.

"At the time of termination of support some of the organizations received contributions to tide them over the period required to develop new sources of funds."

Some of the groups which have reportedly received CIA funds for years were said unofficially to have been hard-pressed in their search for other donors following withdrawal of the Government support.

McCloskey followed past Administration practice in refusing to name any of the organizations which had gotten CIA money or those receiving the extra severance pay. He

would say only that a "very, very small" number among the 1000 or more private U.S. groups with overseas activities had been getting the secret Government help.

McCloskey refused to name any of these organizations on grounds it "would not be in the national interest and might jeopardize their chances of developing new means of support."

The Katzenbach committee, which also included CIA Chief Richard Helms and Secretary John W. Gardner of Health, Education and Welfare, recommended that the possibilities for supplying Government organizations be studied.